

A message from Mrs. Denham

Absence request form; (exceptional circumstances only);

Please can I remind you that the law (Education Act 1996) does NOT grant parents automatic rights to take their children out of school during term time – these have to be “exceptional circumstances” and normally, days out and holidays are NOT seen to be exceptional. If you need to remove your child from school, please make an appointment to see me or email me before you book. We will then ask you to fill in form S2 ABSENCE REQUEST FORM. (There is no “holiday form” – the S2 is the only form available.) The section on this form to explain fully the exceptional circumstance is very small so could you please attach your explanation on a separate sheet of A4.

Thank you for your understanding with this – this is law and our hands are tied. We are trying hard to work with this system and also at the same time to be as supportive as possible to parents and families.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

PTA AGM

The PTA held a very successful AGM this week, at the end of a very profitable year. They welcomed some new members to their meeting, but if you could not make this meeting, and would like to be part of the PTA you are more than welcome to join at any time. I would also like to personally thank them for their dedication and hard work and looking forward to some very exciting ideas for the year ahead.

School News

Pupil's achievements: We would like to wish **Lannah Barrow and Lara Heywood** all the best in their South West age group gymnastics competition on Sunday in Melksham. Good luck girls. Well done to; **Bobby Barrow** who has this week achieved his 25m swimming award.

Letters sent home this week.

Public Health Devon, measuring height and weight of children in **Reception and Year 6.**

North Devon Cross Country - Kingsley School

Those children representing the school at the Kingsley cross country on Sunday, if you wish to walk the course with Mrs. Hammond she will be at the registration tent at 9am.

Squirrels Class - Lost iPad charger

At the end of last term the year 5 & 6 children (Squirrels) brought their own iPads to school and unfortunately at the end of the day one child was without their charger. Did anyone pick it up by mistake? Can you please check to see if you have one at home that does not belong to you, and kindly return it to school. Thank you.

Preschool

We still have a few places available in Pre-school on all days so If you know of anyone who has not been able to find a place or would like a few extra hours, please ask them to contact Elaine at adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk or (01271) 345908

Funding:

Further information is available here

<http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

You can apply for your 11 digit code from the HMRC at

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

Devon Early Years and Childcare Service

Website: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/eycs/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/devoneycs>

School Meal payment to St Michael's

Please note that their new bank details are as follows:

Lloyds TSB

St Michael's Learning centres LTD

Sort code: 30-90-49

Account Number: 53005660

New Club

Guardians of Ancorra; is a new club that will be starting on 27th September and running on Wednesdays for 6 weeks. Mrs. Turner is running it with the help of Chris Eales, who works for Scripture Union and also helped us to put on a special Year 6 activity day at the end of last term. The club will involve playing a game on the iPad, which helps children to explore Bible stories and is really fun! The children who showed an interest should have had a letter but if not come and see Mrs. Turner. There are only about 10 places so we may have to run the club in two groups.

Secondary School Transfer – 2018

The system opens on 1st September and closes on 31st October. It is very important that parents apply within this timescale as late applications may be disadvantaged where schools are oversubscribed. The actual application facility will be open at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline. Parents may express up to three preferences ranked in priority order. Any questions should be directed in the first instance to the Customer Service Centre on 0345 155 1019. Allocation day is Thursday 1st March, 2018

News from the PTA



Christmas Cards

The children will be designing their own Christmas Cards early this term, and you will be able to order packs nearer to Christmas. This will help to raise funds for our School whilst helping you get organised for Christmas with personalised Christmas cards. More details to follow.

Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Emma Barstow on 07976 269525.

After school clubs

All clubs finish at 4:15pm.

Monday	Netball	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs, 3,4,5&6	NO NETBALL CLUB ON 2nd OCTOBER
	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, 1 & 2	
Tuesday	Football	Mr Dymond	Yrs. 3,4,5&6	
Wednesdays	Guardians of Ancorra	Mrs. Turner		Starts on Weds 27th September
	Staff Meetings			
Friday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Yrs, 3,4,5&6	NO X COUNTRY CLUB ON 6th OCTOBER

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Term Dates

Non-Pupil day – Friday 20th October, 2017.

Half term – Monday 23rd October, 2017 to Friday 17th October, 2017 (inclusive).

Last day of the autumn term – Friday 15th December, 2017

Start of the Spring term – Tuesday 2nd January, 2018

Diary Dates

Swim & Gym: Year 3 & 4, September 26th, October 3rd, 10th, 17th and 31st and November 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.
Please remember to collect your child from the Leisure centre of Tarka Tennis centre at 3pm.

Author visit: Tuesday 10th October

Harvest service: Wednesday 4th October at St Peters Church Tawstock, 9 am.

Christmas Lunch: Thursday 14th December

Christmas service: Thursday 14th December

Christmas performances: Wednesday 6th December – 3.30 pm, Thursday 7th December – 2 pm,

Community News



Wrap around service; Breakfast Club and After School Club. For many years we have offered wrap around care exclusive to Holywell and we are proud to have strong links with your fantastic school. To ensure the service is viable we need to be sure of high level of demand to meet increasing costs of running the nursery and additional services.

Many families at other primary schools have asked us to consider drop/collection at their schools and, should numbers remain low at Holywell we are looking at the logistics of their requests.

We are offering our breakfast and afterschool to Holywell parents before other schools and these places are on a first come first served basis. Katie loves her daily trips to Tawstock!

Circuits

Every Tuesday

9 – 9.45 am, in the village hall.

£4 pay as you go

All fitness levels welcome!

Children welcome to come along and play whilst mum/dad get fit.

Contact Estelle Liepa for more info or just turn up.

07973 533668

Tawstock Tiddlers and Toddlers

Bumps, babies and all preschoolers welcome

Snacks provided Guest speakers and Messy play.

Monday from 9.30 – 11.00 at Tawstock Village Hall

For more details contact Mel:

07866783740

